

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 R

66619

DRAFTED BY EUR/IB:HMCCOWN

APPROVED BY EUR/MR. STABLER

EUR/IB:MR REBENOLD

S/S-O:RELTZ

EUR/RPM:MR FLOYD

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R 300215Z MAR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO

S E C R E T STATE 053299

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 53299 ACTION MADRID 16 MARCH

1974. QUOTE:

S E C R E T STATE 053299

EXDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: OVIP SP (CORTINA, PEDRO)

SUBJECT: VISIT OF SPANISH FOREIGN MINISTER

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM THE SECRETARY

1. I SHOULD APPRECIATE YOUR DELIVERING THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER ON MY BEHALF:

QUOTE DEAR MR. MINISTER: I VERY MUCH REGRET THAT THE CIRCUMSTANCES HAVE OBLIGED ME TO POSTPONE OUR MEETING IN WASHINGTON WHICH WE HAD SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 27. MY TRIP TO MOSCOW, WHICH I HAD EXPECTED TO TAKE PLACE EARLIER, HAD TO BE DELAYED AND NOW I SHALL GO AT THE END OF NEXT WEEK

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AND NOT BE BACK IN WASHINGTON UNTIL LATE ON MARCH 28.

I HAVE GIVEN MUCH THOUGHT TO THE DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND SPAIN WHICH WE DISCUSSED DURING OUR BRIEF MEETING IN MADRID IN EARLY JANUARY. IT HAD, I THINK, ALWAYS BEEN UNDERSTOOD BETWEEN US THAT WHATEVER US-SPANISH DECLARATION EMERGED FROM OUR DISCUSSIONS WOULD BE GENERALLY PARALLEL IN NATURE TO BOTH THE ATLANTIC DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES AND THE DECLARATION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY. WE HAD HOPED TO MAKE GOOD PROGRESS ON THE OTHER TWO DECLARATIONS, BUT, AS I AM SURE YOU ARE AWARE, WE HAVE CONCLUDED THAT IT WOULD BE PREMATURE AT THIS TIME TO ENDEAVOR TO COMPLETE THE DECLARATION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE EUROPEAN

COMMUNITY. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES WE BELIEVE IT WOULD NOT BE DESIRABLE TO GO FORWARD ALONE WITH THE ATLANTIC DECLARATION. AT THE PRESENT TIME IT IS NOT CLEAR WHEN THE SITUATION WILL BE SUFFICIENTLY MATURE TO RESUME DISCUSSIONS ON THESE TWO DECLARATIONS.

SINCE YOU AND I HAD FELT THAT IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO MAINTAIN A CLOSE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES-SPANISH DECLARATION AND THE OTHER TWO DECLARATIONS, IT SEEMS TO ME THAT IT MIGHT BE PREFERABLE AT THIS TIME TO AWAIT FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS ON THOSE TWO DECLARATIONS BEFORE PROCEEDING FURTHER ON OUR BILATERAL DECLARATION. IN THE EVENT THAT THE DELAY IN COMPLETING THE OTHER TWO DECLARATIONS SHOULD BE TOO LONG, WE MIGHT WANT TO CONSIDER INCORPORATING OUR BILATERAL DECLARATION WITHIN THE GENERAL FRAMEWORK OF THE EVENTUAL NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE RENEWAL OF OUR AGREEMENT ON FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION. I SHOULD BE MOST GRATEFUL TO YOU FOR YOUR THOUGHTS ON THIS QUESTION.

IRRESPECTIVE OF WHAT MAY BE DECIDED ABOUT OUR BILATERAL DECLARATION, I WOULD OF COURSE BE VERY HAPPY TO RECEIVE YOU HERE IN WASHINGTON AND I WOULD HOPE THAT YOU MIGHT FIND IT CONVENIENT TO COME HERE SOMETIME DURING THE MONTH OF MAY. IF THIS WOULD BE CONVENIENT TO YOU, THEN WE MIGHT ASK OUR PEOPLE TO WORK OUT A MUTUALLY CONVENIENT

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SPECIFIC DATE. I LOOK FORWARD TO HAVING YOUR VIEWS ON THESE MATTERS.

WITH WARM REGARDS, HENRY A. KISSINGER. UNQUOTE.

2. WE SHALL INFORM AMBASSADOR SAGAZ OF THE GENERAL TERMS OF THE ABOVE LETTER. KISSINGER

UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 30 MAR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974STATE053299  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** HMCCOWN  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** RR  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** SECSTATE WASHDC  
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**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t1974031/aaaaaadx.tel  
**Line Count:** 116  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ORIGIN SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 11 APR 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <11 APR 2002 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <04 FEB 2003 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** VISIT OF SPANISH FOREIGN MINISTER  
**TAGS:** OVIP, SP, (CORTINA, PEDRO)  
**To:** NATO  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005